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Kuna gets its first stoplight in time for start of school

[Original Article](#)

KUNA -- For students throughout the Treasure Valley summer is officially over.

The city of Kuna has its first stoplight near the new Reed Elementary School.

For many Monday was the first day of school.

One local community broke a 91-year tradition to make sure its students will have a safer year.

In Kuna less kids are jumping on the bus and more are walking to school, thanks to the newly opened Reed Elementary School.

"Yes, the children are supposed to walk. It is a walking school," said Jenni Gordley, parent.

"A walking school, basically most of our students, as you can see we have a lot of subdivisions around this brand new school, and fortunately a lot of our kids live closer than a mile away," said Chuck Silzly, Reed Elementary School principal.

But with over 400 kids creating a twice-daily promenade across a busy street, some parents were worried about the trek.

"Traffic is a concern," said Jenni Gordley, parent.

So officials came up with a solution install a stoplight.

Kuna has been around for 91 years and has never had a stop light within city limits until now.

"And with a walking school we have a lot more kids walking in, but with the light it's been very beneficial," said Silzly.

Most of the kids will now pound the pavement the old fashioned way - rain, shine, or snowfall, winter, and spring.

And perhaps someday they'll tell their grandkids that they did it uphill - both ways.

"We only live a half mile away. Can't justify driving," said Gordley.

"One of the advantages, I see a lot of parents walking their kids to school and picking them up. And it seems like it's beneficial to them to have that time to visit and walk back and forth," said Silzly.

In order to help train students, parents, and drivers on the new stoplight, the Ada County Sheriff's Office is increasing their presence in the area, especially during school hours.